

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION SUMMARY MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

DATE: June 21, 2005
TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Sawyer Hall
Lacey, Washington

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Val Ogden, Chair	Vancouver
Yvonne Yokota	Sequim
Bill Chapman	Mercer Island
Craig Partridge	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Mark Quinn	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Larry Fairleigh	Director, State Parks and Recreation Commission

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A RECORDED TAPE IS RETAINED BY IAC AS THE FORMAL RECORD OF MEETING.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Val Ogden called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

If time allows, the IAC will add two items to the agenda:

- Brief update on the Thurston County ORV Park closure.
- Pre-discussion on the branding memo.

6242 LANDS STRATEGY REPORT APPROVAL

Gary Cooper presented this agenda item. (See June meeting notebook and handout for details.)

Gary reviewed his findings, discussed the preferred coordination option, and then outlined recommendations.

Larry Fairleigh asked about the nine recommendations Gary made in his presentation and asked if these would go with the Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) changes or if it was broader.

Gary said the recommendations are broader than just WWRP. It is the work of the Habitat and Recreation Lands Subcommittees looking at agency acquisition programs as a whole.

Craig Partridge asked if Gary is also recommending the Board look at WWRP requirements. Gary confirmed that it would be two separate recommendations.

Gary then provided an overview of each section of the report.

Inventory

The following recommendations were made in the Inventory section of the report:

- Standardize acquisition data.
- Improve transparency by sharing information.

Panel Discussion:

Senator Linda Evans Parlette, Paul Parker, Washington State Association of Counties, and Bill Robinson, The Nature Conservancy, commented on the report.

Senator Linda Evans Parlette noted the purpose of SSB 6242 was not to justify the need for lands for recreation. We need to be sure the right hand knows what the left hand is doing, as far as state and federal agencies are concerned. The original intent of the bill was to take a look at the smaller counties with smaller tax bases and then make policy recommendations.

Paul Parker, Washington State Association of Counties, commented that one major concern he has is that there is still a lot of acquisition taking place in areas that already have a lot of public land. Much of the DNR land in trust status is multiple use land, so to exclude all that land does not reflect the true story. For the report, he suggested a county-by-county breakdown of the information that is in the appendices.

Bill Robinson, The Nature Conservancy, feels this draft of the report is a dramatic improvement over the last draft. He discussed the need to balance the acquisition with population growth for recreation, habitat, and clean water. One part of the report that is confusing is the transition from the trust land transfer program.

Gary Cooper reported that he had a discussion with Brian Sims, budget analyst for the senate, on trust land data. One reason for limiting the information was to be able to complete the report by the deadline. Another reason was the need to draw the line between specific habitat and recreation land categories and those not specifically intended to be managed for those purposes.

Scope of Coordination

Gary discussed the recommended scope from the Board, which was to focus primarily on state and federal grant program coordination and expansion of habitat and recreation land through the acquisition of private lands.

Tax Study

Don Burrows, consultant and former director of the Department of Revenue, provided an overview of the existing tax structure as it pertains to public lands.

Mr. Burrows discussed the case study he did on a million dollar land purchase in

Chelan County. The study showed a one-year impact of \$11,700 lost in taxes overall with a shift of \$10,620 to other taxpayers.

Senator Parlette discussed the cumulative effects of loss of tax revenue, which might be a small amount in a one-year block but, over a longer period, these could add up to significant loss.

No Net Gain Options

Gary Cooper suggested a limited no net gain approach as an agency's first level of review before making any habitat or recreation land purchase.

Mark Quinn does not believe it would be wrong to discuss a no net gain policy as long as we discuss the consequences.

Chair Ogden has some concerns with presenting this policy as it makes the basic assumption that we think we have too much public land. In some areas it might be true, but not as a general rule.

Senator Parlette discussed SB 5914, Deed of Right Bill, which allows local government to make trades with federal government, land trusts, and county governments. She provided an example of a piece of property in Chelan County that was put into a three-way trade with Salmon Recovery Funding Board money. This isn't something that happens on a case-by-case basis.

Paul Parker commented that overall the report is very good and will help state agencies focus their acquisitions. Need to take into account that state and federal ownership is not required for recreation and habitat only – for example, DNR forest lands are not just tree farms but are actually habitat lands due to the statewide HCP. Also need to look at salmon recovery and watershed planning that is protecting private lands and do a gap analysis.

Chair Ogden does not feel the Board would support a policy of "no net gain" but could begin a discussion on "limited no net gain". Board members were in agreement with the Chair's suggestion.

Larry Fairleigh noted that there might be a need to create policies on discussing options with local governments prior to purchasing land as part of the process.

Final Recommendations

Gary Cooper discussed the three final recommendations:

- A. A permanent Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Committee would be established, including representatives from IAC, Parks, DNR, and WDFW;

- B. The Board should revisit the IAC and WWRP planning requirements to determine whether state agency coordination could be improved by modifying those requirements;
- C. The Board should develop options for centralizing coordination of habitat and recreation lands acquired through federal grants.

The following activities would be addressed by the committee within one year:

- 1. Develop language to amend land management plans and policies.
- 2. Develop standards for producing a biennial forecast of acquisitions and disposals.
- 3. Establish procedures for submitting the biennial acquisition and disposal plans.
- 4. Develop and convene an annual forum for agencies to meet to discuss their proposed acquisitions and disposals.
- 5. Develop a recommended standard for GIS-based documentation for all future acquisitions.
- 6. Standardize acquisition record keeping.
- 7. Identify a preferred process for centralizing acquisition data.
- 8. Develop an approach for monitoring the success of acquisitions.
- 9. Identify and commence a dialogue with key state and federal partners to develop an inventory of potential public lands for transfer into habitat and recreation land management status.

Bill Chapman asked the purpose of creating a new committee with the same people that are on the IAC Board.

Gary explained that a new committee would give more input, expertise, and communication from agencies.

Director Johnson explained that this would be a staff level committee, rather than Board level, with the Board receiving updated reports and assisting with policy matters.

Chair Ogden suggested using Board members plus a few other people to work as a subcommittee.

Bill is against the coordinating committee recommendation and believes the IAC agencies should commit to coordination. He likes the nine recommendations.

Craig Partridge also approves of the nine recommendations. He would like to have the Legislature give direction to the agency along with the budget behind this coordination.

There was general agreement with the nine recommendations but to be silent on a recommendation for a new committee. Will leave as an open question the administrative structure to complete each of the recommendations. Most Board members feel the IAC is probably the place where these tasks should take place, but adding more to the IAC staff may be difficult without additional administrative support.

As far as recommendations B and C, the Chair's sense was that the three agencies should not have one plan as the Board recommended more explanation of the differences between the agencies' missions and mandates.

Craig suggested a cross-referencing portion to the plans.

It was decided that the Board would need to look at opportunities for coordinating but not make a recommendation at this time.

Bill Robinson noted that some kind of coordination is necessary and was the reason this bill was passed. The report needed to make some positive recommendations and he believes this is on the right track. There has been a focus on the number of acres, but he believes the focus should be on the best quality of habitat and the right acres. Bill discussed the Biodiversity Council and its work on eco-regional coordination and landowner incentives.

The Chair asked Bill Robinson to work with Gary Cooper to draft wording for recommendation 10 dealing with the importance of quality of acres, not just quantity.

Gary reviewed the SSB 6242 requirements to be certain the report addressed all of the issues. Gary also reviewed the appendices for the Board's approval.

Bill Chapman **MOVED** to adopt the report with changes suggested by the Board at today's meeting. Mark Quinn **SECONDED** the motion. The motion was **ADOPTED**.

LEGAL ISSUES UPDATE

Director Johnson reported that we are facing a request for a Supreme Court appeal by the Northwest Motorcycle Association concerning the gas tax refund issue.

Officials from Thurston and Grays Harbor are still working on the ORV Sports Park issue. The County Commissioners may be giving a presentation at our meeting in July.

BRANDING

The Chair pointed out the memo on branding from Susan Zemek that was handed out prior to the meeting. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

REPORTS FROM PARTNERS

The Chair will be presenting a check to the Port of Camas and Washougal on June 27 and Director Johnson will be presenting to Olympia next week. Will try to get Board members out to one or two presentations this summer.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Val Ogden
Val Ogden, Chair

Next Meeting: July 7 & 8, 2005
Cedar River Watershed Education Center
North Bend, Washington

**INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION
SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD
SUMMARY MINUTES - JOINT MEETING**

*DATE: May 12, 2005
TIME: 9:00 a.m.*

*PLACE: Gordy's Conference Rooms
Tukwila, Washington*

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Val Ogden, Chair	Vancouver
Yvonne Yokota	Sequim
Karen Daubert	Seattle
Bill Chapman	Mercer Island
Jeff Parsons	Leavenworth
Craig Partridge	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Elizabeth Rodrick	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Ruckelshaus, Chair	Seattle
Brenda McMurray	Yakima
Steve Tharinger	Clallam County
Mark Clark	Director, Conservation Commission
Dick Wallace	Designee, Department of Ecology
Sara LaBorde	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

IAC Chair Val Ogden called the joint meeting of the IAC and SRFB to order at 9:02 a.m. Introductions were made.

Director Laura Johnson provided an overview of the day's agenda and brief history of each Board, highlighting similarities and differences.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jim Fox provided a legislative update. (See notebook item #2 for details.)

MONITORING FOR RESULTS

Bruce Crawford presented this agenda item. (See handout for details.)

Bruce explained the Government Management Accountability Measures (GMAP) process and how staff is starting to look at this process.

Bruce highlighted the five Priorities of Government (POG) that most relate to the IAC and SRFB and what staff is using in developing the agency GMAP indicators.

Dick Wallace noted two areas that both Boards can work on:

- What is the right investment portfolio for doing on-the-ground monitoring?
- What is the right role of the Boards on monitoring these efforts?

Tukwila Mayor Steven Mullet welcomed the group. Mayor Mullet is also chair of the WRIA 9 steering committee so he understands the issues. He asked the Boards to remember the grassroots level efforts and how important they are to salmon recovery.

Steve Tharinger asked the mayor if all the constituent groups are at the table.

Mayor Mullet explained how their committees are set up to reach both the local entities and the scientists so he believes they include the whole group of constituents. They have used an inclusive process and feels this has worked better than using regulations.

SRFB Chair Bill Ruckelshaus agreed with the need to be inclusive and how important the citizens are to the process.

LANDS STRATEGY REPORT (SSB 6242)

Gary Cooper provided an overview of the legislation requiring the lands study, status of the 6242 lands strategy report, and issues he is struggling with. (See handout for details.)

SRFB Chair Ruckelshaus informed Gary of the process the SRFB goes through and how land acquisition takes place, with local priorities through lead entities. He asked Gary to make sure this is included in the report.

Steve Tharinger noted that the perception is that the tax base is gone. He suggested the report may want to show tax status before purchase and could find that the effects may not be as bad as perceived.

Brenda McMurray has come to the realization that this is an opportunity to highlight the coordination and good science associated with this report. She believes this may be a way to defuse some of the myths and will be a positive thing for the Boards.

Bill Chapman discussed the WWRP's 1989 lands strategy and process to figure out land acquisitions and the 10-year plan. He would like Gary to include this information in his report.

Craig Partridge discussed DNR's position concerning the study. They are very supportive that the three agencies should be coordinating efforts and ought to look at a variety of other land bases (local, private, and trust lands).

IAC Chair Ogden requested copies of the full report prior to the June 21 meeting. She urged IAC Board members to review the report and be ready to make decisions in June.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE PRESENTATION

Bob Lohn, Regional Administrator for NOAA, presented Bill Ruckelshaus with the Environmental Hero Award. This is the highest award given by the Department of the Interior.

Bob gave the background on this award and explained why SRFB Chair Ruckelshaus was chosen as its recipient. Three reasons listed were:

1. Sense of proper recognition – he deserves it
2. Affection from those who know him
3. He knows how to do it right – he is a charismatic leader with a compelling vision and ability to communicate that vision

TWO CASE STUDIES: PROJECTS USING MULTIPLE GRANT PROGRAMS

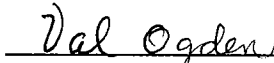
Rollie Geppert and Marguerite Austin presented this agenda item.

Rollie gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Dungeness River Railroad Bridge projects that have received grants from both the SRFB and IAC.

Jeff Parsons noted that the Dungeness River project is near and dear to his heart as he has worked on this project over the last several years through the Audubon Society. He also discussed the support of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe.

Marguerite gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Green River Gorge, another area that has received grants from both the SRFB and IAC.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 p.m. Board members left for a tour of Seahurst Park in Burien.


Val Ogden, Chair

Next Meeting: June 21, 2005
 Sawyer Hall, Lacey